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AND

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To the People of South Carolina.

WHEN I arrived last January in Philadelphia, I little expected to have been placed so soon and so remotely as in the State of South Carolina. Neither did I intend to adopt my own particular profession. My views were turned to Agriculture, which, so far as public matters would permit, has been for several years a very favourite employment, both in studying its theory, comparing the various manners of different countries, and in reducing that theory to practice. The news of the evacuation of Charles-town had just been received when I reached Philadelphia, and your Hon. Delegates in Congress did me the honour to conceive of sending me to Charles-town to become your Printer. And in this idea they were joined by other Members of Congress. The great attention to my interest with which this proposal was made, induced me instantly to forego my own wishes, and be determined by the direction of gentlemen who so warmly entered into my welfare, and who were pleased to think a coincidence of circumstances pointed out my going to Charles-town. On my arrival in Philadelphia a distant intimation was given of a Resolution of Congress by which every British subject was proscribed the States; but it was not suffered to make a momentary impression, as I received assurances from authority that such Resolution was never intended to exclude me. However, as my arrival might give rise to conjecture, to remove the possibility of the most distantly jealous but proper surmise, I determined to submit as well the motives of my voyage to America, as what had been my conduct as a Public Printer in England. The present defective state of my types, and a total want of assistance, will not permit me at this time to publish it. But that line I laid down for my guide, and which I have uniformly pursued, is described, summarily, at the conclusion of my speech to Lord Mansfield on receiving sentence previous to my last imprisonment:

"My Lord, I have served the public fifteen years faithfully and disinterestedly; eight years of which I laboured in defending and asserting the rights of my countrymen and fellow-citizens!--and the last seven years in decrying and exposing the WICKEDNESS and the FOLLY of the ACCURSED AMERICAN WAR!!!--I now sit down a most oppressed man; and though with a wife and seven children, I cheerfully go to prison, under the happy assurance of possessing the confidence and approbation of my countrymen, on whom I cast myself for protection and support."

Though personally a great stranger to the inhabitants of America, I soon found they were neither unacquainted with what

I had done, nor of what I had suffered. My reception in Philadelphia was of the most pleasing kind: And if the crude outline of my conduct, inserted in the Pennsylvania Packet of Jan. 16, should be accepted by the People of South Carolina with the same satisfaction as by the Citizens of Philadelphia, it will afford me unspeakable happiness. [1] While the kind treatment I have received does the highest honour to the feelings of America, it will serve to point out to the persecuted in the Old World that they will be certain of finding an happy asylum here in the generous friendship of its inhabitants.

I derive no little pleasure in finding myself placed in a State, the people of which, by their singular sufferings and unshaken stand in defence of their Freedom and Independency, have made for themselves so glorious a name among the nations of Europe. As far as the Press can contribute to their interest and happiness, no means either of application or within the reach of my ability, shall be wanting. But I must beg leave to observe, that it shall not be that kind of Press some people in a sister State are fond of denominating as *open to all Parties*. I cannot convey a better idea of such a Press than a ludicrous print in England does--that of a common prostitute placed in an indelicate situation, and declaring herself "open to all parties, and influenced by none." I trust to see that no other party will ever find countenance in this State but that of a decided, determined one in support of that noble Fabric of Freedom it has raised at the inestimable price of so much Blood and Treasure; that one mind and one heart will influence the actions of every individual;--and that the only contention will be who shall most zealously promote the interest and glory of the Common wealth. A Press open to *Party*, is the bane of any State--by it every distinction is levelled, every kind of public and private worth lies open to the secret stabs of Party-spirit, and black Revenge. My few days stay in Philadelphia afforded sufficient time to inform myself of the mischiefs occasioned by a Press, in the present unsettled state of mens tempers, (and at a time when the enemies of America would eagerly avail themselves of such an opportunity to sow discord and distrust) open to indiscriminate publications. The King of England may effect by such expedients, what the greatest armies could not accomplish.

The Press I shall have the honour to conduct in this State, will be what it ever was in England, truly devoted to promote in every way, the liberty and the happiness of the people. The most perfect freedom will be allowed for a candid, manly, and ingenious discussion of subjects, divested of personality, by which the interests of the public may be affected, or their welfare promoted----but the most watchful eye shall be kept in guarding malicious Insinuation from sully-

ing the honour and destroying the hard-earned reputation of characters who have deserved well of their country.

My most grateful and heart-felt thanks are due to their Excellencies your present and late Governors, for the service rendered me by their forwarding so early the business on which I came;--as also to the Hon. the Houses of Senate and Assembly for the high honour done me in the appointment to be their Printer--'tis indeed a most pleasing testimony of the great confidence entertained of me--to justify which opinion will be my constant endeavour, and by an unremitting attention in the execution of their business, to ensure their patronage and support.

I desire likewise to present my warmest acknowledgments to those gentlemen who have promoted (and are at present adding to it by their great and zealous friendship) a list of numerous subscribers, to whom also my best thanks are due for the service and honour done me by their subscriptions. The paper I now present to them is very unlike those I have printed in England--indeed it can only be considered as an apology for a newspaper--but I trust in time to lay before my readers such a one as in its matter and manner to make it interesting and acceptable.

I will not intrude more of these hasty and indigested lines on the attention of the public, than to assure them, that had my views of ambition extended beyond any I ever formed, they could not have been more highly gratified than in finding myself--*The Printer of the Commonwealth of South-Carolina*--and that as such I will always most gratefully and devotedly be

Their very humble servant,

J. MILLER.

[1] For the present a copy is left at the office for the perusal of every gentleman who may have a wish to see it.

To be Sold,

A Track of Land in St. Bartholomew's parish,

About two miles from Parker's Ferry, containing by survey 364 acres,

The greater part good Rice land.

Any person inclinable to purchase, may apply to

JOHN VANDER HORST.

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J. SCREVEN.